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On Behalf Of:

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If someone today is surprised at how well beavers can restore degraded riparian habitat pandemic the waterways themselves, they have not read the news or scientific findings that were even published decades ago. Some of the best studies in support of beavers being allowed to do their waterway engineering are the studies of the trophic cascades in Yellowstone N.P. after the restoration of wolves in 1995. After wolves caused the overpopulated elk herds to keep on the move, rather than overgrazing riparian habitat and the willows, aspens, and cottonwoods along streams and rivers , beavers, having their food sources restored, moved in to create wetlands , ponds, and lakes , which attracted an entire variety of birds, other plants, and wildlife to make a healthy ecosystem.

Taking these studies to heart , even here in Oregon, many NGOs , like Think Wild, ONDA, and Deschutes Land Trust, have had volunteer programs to create beaver analog dams in degraded streams throughout the state. These improvement projects have even enticed beavers to return to areas to add their own dams ! With real beaver dams and analog dams, even ephemeral streams in the desert have created and restored lost stream flows and brought back moisture to once drought areas.